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Reagan plays down polygraph row

WASHINGTON (R) — The White House on Friday sought to placate Secretary of State George Shultz after his denunciation of President Reagan's directive for polygraph testing of officials with access to sensitive information. The directive, which could affect thousands of officials in addition to intelligence agents already subject to lie-detector tests, calls for random use of polygraphs only as a counter-espionage weapon, spokesman Larry Speakes said. A senior White House official who asked not to be identified suggested that Mr. Shultz, who said on Thursday he had "grave reservations" about lie detectors, might have misinterpreted President Reagan's intention with the Nov. 1 National Security Council directive. "Unless George Shultz is suspected of espionage it would be highly unlikely that George Shultz would be asked to take a lie detector test," the official said.

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Stockholm conference ends session

STOCKHOLM (AP) — Delegates of the 35-nation European Security Conference (ESC) wound up their eighth session in two years on Friday after agreeing on a timetable and on a generally optimistic note. Agreement on the schedule was reached on the eve of the final day of this year's last session. The conference is to be adjourned next Sept. 19 and the ESC process then will be followed up in Vienna. Delegates from the NATO and Soviet blocs as well as the neutral and non-aligned states, after agreeing on the schedule for next year's four sessions, said they were optimistic about getting down to concrete agreements after clearing procedural issues during two years of talks. The delegates will have 23 more working weeks next year to reach an agreement on measures to prevent or lessen the risk of accidental war, the chief aim of the ESC. The first session next year is due to start Jan. 28 and end March 14.

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Zafer Al Masri assumes office of Nablus mayor

NABLUS (R) — A Palestinian mayor, local businessman Zafer Al Masri, took office on Wednesday for the first time in almost four years in Nablus. An Israeli military officer had run the city of 100,000 people since 1982, when occupation authorities ousted the previous mayor, Bassam Shakra'a. Thousands of exuberant residents stood in heavy rain outside Nablus city hall as Mr. Masri assumed office in a brief ceremony.

Ministry launches medical tests for foreign workers

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Health has launched a programme of periodic medical examinations for non-Jordanians working in Jordan to make sure that they are free from bilharzia and tuberculosis, a spokesman for the ministry said. The ministry has requested all departments concerned to evacuate all those who happen to have either epidemic, the spokesman added. Jordan has some 153,000 foreign workers, according to statistics of the Ministry of Labour. Medical examinations will cover all nationals of countries with cases of bilharzia and tuberculosis.

CAEU meetings begin in Amman

AMMAN (Petra) — Meetings of a joint committee of members of the Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) and joint Arab companies began here Friday at the CAEU headquarters. During its two-day meetings the committee will discuss amendments and additions to legal documents of joint Arab companies.

Iranian, Libyan and Syrian ministers to meet in Tripoli

BAHRAIN (AP) — Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati flew to Libya on Friday for a tripartite meeting with his Libyan and Syrian counterparts, the official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported. IRNA quoted Mr. Velayati as saying in a departure statement that he is scheduled to review issues related to the Palestinians and the Iran-Iraq war, in the four-day meeting with the Libyan and Syrian foreign ministers.

Non-aligned summit set for Aug. 26

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The eighth summit meeting of the 101-member Non-Aligned Movement to be held in Harare, Zimbabwe, will take place from Aug. 26 to Sept. 7, 1986, the group's coordinating bureau at the U.N. decided on Thursday. It was also agreed at the closed-door meeting that the coordinating bureau would convene at foreign ministers level in New Delhi from April 14 to 19. The coming year will mark the 25th anniversary of the foundation of the Non-Aligned Movement.

Latest U.S. position on Mideast conference is not new — Jordanian official

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter with agency dispatches

AMMAN — The latest American position on the question of an international Middle East peace conference is the same as that which was reached between Jordan and the U.S. immediately following His Majesty King Hussein's talks in Washington last October but which had not been announced before due to the disrupting events of that period, a senior Jordanian official said on Friday.

The official, who did not want to be quoted by name, said: "We have reached this point two months ago. Our positions with the U.S. are still not identical but we have agreed on the principle of the conference and on Palestinian participation." A senior U.S. official said Wednesday that he believed an international peace conference could be successful in bringing all sides of the regional conflict into direct negotiations.

But the U.S. official, who talked to reporters on condition he not be named, said there remained many problems with such a conference, which was first proposed by Jordan.

"I think we have a better understanding today, in the region

and here, about the possibility of putting together (a conference) so that it would be successful" in leading to direct negotiations between the parties, he said.

The Jordanian official told the Jordan Times on Friday that although there is an agreement on "the principle" of an international conference, "there are still some differences on certain details." He said there is an "ongoing dialogue" between Jordan and the U.S. on these details.

The official said that the dialogue was "disrupted" by the events that followed King Hussein's talks in Washington. He was apparently referring to the Oct. 1 Israeli bombing of the Palestine Liberation Organisation headquarters in Tunisia, the Oct. 7 hijacking of the Achille Lauro, the Oct. 11 U.S. interception of an Egyptian airliner, and the Oct. 14 cancellation of a meeting between a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and British officials in Lagos.

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Israel sends jets over Lebanon; Syria says it could be dangerous

BEIRUT (AP) — Israeli warplanes crashed the sound barrier over Beirut, the Bekaa Valley and the southern port city of Sidon on Friday despite warnings from Syria that it will not tolerate Israeli air patrols over Lebanon.

Sonic booms rattled Beirut and Sidon, 40 kilometres south of the Lebanese capital, and sources at Lebanon's military command said Israeli warplanes swept the Syrian-controlled Bekaa Valley in East Lebanon at midmorning, then veered westward in supersonic runs over Beirut and Sidon.

The sources, who spoke on condition they were not identified, said the Syrians did not use their ground-to-air missiles against the intruding planes.

The Israeli air force has intensified its reconnaissance patrols over Lebanon since it claimed two

U.S.-made F-15 fighters downed two Syrian MiG-23 floggers interceptors Nov. 19. Syria has not admitted any loss in the dogfight.

Israel charged on Sunday that Syria has deployed Soviet-supplied high-altitude missiles along its border with Lebanon that could fire deep into Israel. The charge heightened tensions in the Middle East.

Israel contended the SAM-2 missiles posed a threat to its air patrols over Lebanon. The United States appealed to Syria to remove them.

But Syria rejected the plea and defended its right to deploy any kind of weapons necessary for its self-defence on its territory.

The Damascus Al Baath daily of President Hafez Al Assad's ruling Socialist Baath Party warned on Thursday that Israel's "violation of Lebanon's airspace Nov. 19,

lution of Lebanon's airspace will not be tolerated."

The paper did not say whether this meant the SAM-2s, which have a range of 40 to 56 kilometres, would be fired at Israeli jets over Lebanon.

Syria maintains 25,000 troops in the Bekaa and north Lebanon under a 1976 mandate from the Arab League to quell civil war fighting.

Damascus Radio and Syrian newspapers accused the U.S. administration of encouraging Israel to "create a new missile crisis with Syria."

Al Baath's editorial, which was broadcast by Damascus Radio, questioned why the Reagan administration did not object to Israel's daily incursions into Lebanese airspace or to Israel's violation of Syrian airspace Nov. 19.

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Mr. Claude Cheysson (center) talks to reporters upon his arrival at the airport in Amman on Friday (Petra photo)

Coup bid foiled in Nigeria

ABIDJAN (Agencies) — Nigeria's military government said on Friday it had foiled an attempted coup d'etat by army officers. Western diplomats in the Nigerian capital said the attempt took place on Wednesday in northern Nigeria.

Lagos Radio quoted Defence Minister Major-General Domkat Bali as saying "a number of military officers have been arrested for attempting to overthrow the federal government."

It said he disclosed the abortive coup at a news conference in Lagos.

The radio said Gen. Bali warned that anyone else found to be involved would be "dealt with in accordance with military law."

No other details were given in the official Nigerian radio broadcast, but Western diplomats, reached in the Nigerian capital Lagos by telephone from the nearby Ivory Coast, said they had been informed that the coup attempt took place in northern Nigeria on Wednesday.

The sources, who spoke on the condition they not be identified by

(Continued on page 7)

Ramadan arrives today to co-chair joint meetings

AMMAN (J.T.) — Iraqi First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassio Ramadan will arrive in Amman Saturday to chair the Iraqi side of a meeting of the Higher Jordanian-Iraqi Joint Committee that will discuss bilateral cooperation and means of bolstering relations between the two countries.

On the eve of the talks His Majesty King Hussein spoke with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein by telephone and exchanged views on Arab affairs. The Jordanian News Agency, Petra, also reported that Mr. Ramadan will deliver a message from the Iraqi president to King Hussein designed to promote further Jordanian-Iraqi coordination.

The talks also covered matters connected with trade exchanges, industrial issues and future cooperation between the two countries in transport, energy and finance, Petra said.

The economic committee agreed to set up three sub-committees to supervise trade, exchange and to coordinate cooperation in industry, agriculture, communications, and transport.

The Jordanian side at the earlier economic committee meeting was led by Mr. Mohammad Al Saqqaf, under secretary of the Ministry of Industry and Trade, and the Iraqi side was led by Mr. Usama Abdul Razzaq, under secretary of the Iraqi Ministry of Light Industry.

(Continued on page 2)

Qadhafi offers to meet Mubarak

LONDON (Agencies) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi has said he was willing to meet Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak to discuss ways in which Egypt might withdraw from the Camp David accord with Israel, the Libyan news agency JANA said.

JANA, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation, said Col. Qadhafi told the Libyan People's General Congress that the meeting would take place in Cairo, or anywhere else.

But it would be an absolute condition of his participation that the two men discussed "the way of getting Egypt out of the stable of David."

Mr. Mubarak has said he was willing to meet Col. Qadhafi to settle Egyptian-Libyan differences.

Meanwhile, official sources in Abu Dhabi told the AP that an Arab reconciliation committee will meet shortly in Rabat, Morocco, for the second time to patch up differences between Libya and Iraq, and Libya and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

United Arab Emirates President Sheikh Zayed Ibn Sultan Al Nahayan left for Rabat on Thursday to attend a meeting by a reconciliation committee set up by the Arab emergency summit held in Casablanca last August.

"Sheikh Zayed's visit came in the light of the committee's continuous efforts to solve differences among Arab countries," the Emirates news agency said.

The reconciliation committee also includes Moroccan King Hassan and Mauritanian President Muawia Ould Sidi Ahmed Al Taya.

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Cheysson arrives in Amman

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Claude Cheysson, a member of the European Community (EC) Commission for North-South Relations, arrived here on Friday on a three-day visit during which he is expected to be received in audience by His Majesty King Hussein and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

Mr. Cheysson, a former foreign minister of France, will also hold talks with Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Foreign Minister Taher Masri and other senior officials on the situation of the Middle East, efforts to bring about a durable solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict and Jordan-EC relations.

Mr. Cheysson is also expected to unveil a new "EC contribution" to the on-going Mideast peace process, according to informed sources.

In an arrival statement to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, Mr. Cheysson said he will discuss with His Majesty King Hussein the latest developments in the Middle East region and the Palestine question.

The significance of the new Jordan-EC economic protocol, the third between the Kingdom and the community, is that it coincides with Jordan's 1986-1990 development plan, channelling EC financial and technical contribution into projects currently underway, Mr. Cheysson said.

In occupied Jerusalem earlier on Friday, Mr. Cheysson said he hoped the Israeli-Syrian missile crisis would not escalate further. He said he discussed the tension with Syria in talks with Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir on Thursday.

(Continued on page 2)

Iraq reports new attack, urges 'deterrent' action

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iraq announced on Friday a fresh raid on Iran's vital Kharg Island oil terminal and called for "deterrent" action by the United Nations to prevent its Gulf war foe from launching another ground offensive along the front line.

In a statement to the Iraqi News Agency, a military spokesman said that Iraqi jet fighters struck the island at 1:30 p.m., and "dealt a strong blow to their targets, leaving them ablaze."

Iraq has been sending its jet fighters to attack the facility in the northeastern part of the Gulf waters on an almost daily basis since mid-August, vowing that Iraqi attacks on Iranian economic targets will not cease until Tehran accepted a negotiated settlement to the war.

The raid, announced after a four-day lull in the Kharg attacks, was the 56th since Aug. 15 on the facility which accounts for 90 per cent of Iran's oil exports.

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S.African commandos raid Angola and Lesotho

JOHANNESBURG (R) — South African troops were hunting black guerrillas deep inside Angola on Friday and Lesotho government sources said Pretoria troops killed nine South African political refugees in an overnight raid on Maseru.

An Angolan military source confirmed that "South Africans are active" in the south of the country but a spokesman for the South African defence force denied any South African involvement in the raid on Maseru.

Military experts said the Angola raid could increase tension between Pretoria and its neighbours, already high since South Africa threatened to raid Zimbabwe following seven deaths from land mines near Messina in the northern Transvaal.

A white family was on Friday burying three victims of one of the mine explosions which Pretoria

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U.N. ends anniversary session with no major breakthroughs

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The General Assembly has adjourned its 40th anniversary session with no major political breakthroughs to record and the prospect of severe U.N. financial difficulties in 1986 as the United States reduces its contribution to the organization.

Delegates applauded as their president, Jaime de Pinies of Spain, brought down his gavel and the words "Happy Holidays" flashed on the voting machines that dominate the hall on Wednesday.

He said they had listened to "a real torrent of words" in the past three months, during which more than 80 heads of state or government came here to participate in the birthday commemoration.

"Their voices have confirmed the contribution to the improvement of global conditions of life made over the past 40 years of the United Nations," Secretary

General Javier Perez de Cuellar said in remarks at the closing meeting.

"The future will be greatly — perhaps decisively — influenced by the seriousness and constancy of intent which underlies these reaffirmations."

Mr. De Pinies spoke of a session marked by greater moderation and a tendency towards compromise and Mr. Perez de Cuellar said there had been an encouraging and helpful reduction in the level of tensions accompanying the debates and discussion.

But the secretary general also observed that "there have been no breakthroughs on major political and economic problems" and that the world body now faces a year of challenge and hard decisions in the financial field.

(Continued on page 7)

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Home news

Crown Prince honours educators, urges focus on quality, not quantity

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan urged concerned educational authorities in Jordan to give priority to quality rather than quantity in their efforts to improve the country's educational system. "The focus of our attention now should be on creativity and acquiring advanced knowledge if we want to achieve a real improvement in the educational process," Prince Hassan said at a ceremony held Thursday at the Comprehensive School for Girls to honour veteran Jordanian educationalists.

Development can only come through able and qualified teachers whose role should not be confined only to imparting information to the students but should rather extend to cover matters of concern to the local community such as health, agriculture, and environment," Prince Hassan said.

"For this reason, the new stage requires new efforts and new orientations for the aim of building up creative citizens capable of coping with the challenges and requirements of the future and able to fulfil the aspirations of the community," Prince Hassan added.

Prince Hassan also stressed the need for improving the living conditions of teachers to enable them to provide better services.

At the ceremony Prince Hassan distributed "education medals" to Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat, Minister of Planning Abdullah Nour and Mr. Ahmad Al 'Adaleh, under secretary of the Ministry of Interior, for their exceptional performance in education affairs over the past two decades.

In an opening speech, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Abdul Wahab Al Majali welcomed Prince Hassan and paid tribute to his endeavours promoting education in Jordan.

He also referred to the importance of education in helping to develop the social and economic standards of Jordanian citizens, and paid tribute to Jordanian teachers in this regard. "The Ministry of Education has introduced programmes for providing agricultural, cultural, social and health courses to students, and has been organising advanced training for teachers and educational supervisors to improve the educational process in the country," the minister pointed out.

Mr. Abdul-Karim Al Momani, speaking on behalf of Jordanian teachers, voiced the teachers' appreciation to His Majesty King Hussein and Prince Hassan for their keenness on promoting the standards of teachers and for honouring veteran educationalists.

Prince Hassan later opened an art exhibition by students from government schools in Amman and toured its sections. On display for several days are paintings and drawings depicting traditional Jordanian scenes, national heritage, and archaeological sites in the country. Prince Hassan also distributed awards to students excelling in their art work.



His Majesty King Hussein (centre) confers with U.S. governor of Wyoming Ed Herschler (left) at the Royal Court on Thursday. Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasbi is seated at right (Petra photo)

King Hussein receives visiting U.S. governor

AMMAN (Agencies) — His Majesty King Hussein conferred at the Royal Court Thursday with Mr. Ed Herschler, governor of the American state of Wyoming, who arrived in Jordan after a 12-day visit to Saudi Arabia.

Speaking by telephone from his hotel in Petra, where he drove after his meetings with King Hussein and other Jordanian officials, Mr. Herschler described his discussion with the King as "very pleasant" and "very informal."

"We talked about skiing in Wyoming and things like that," the governor said, adding that the King expressed an interest in some day visiting Wyoming's Rocky Mountain ski resorts.

Mr. Herschler is accompanied by University of Wyoming President Donald Veal, who is expected to sign an agreement this week on cultural cooperation between his institution and the University of Jordan, and Mr. Sami Hajjar, deputy director of the International Business Office of the State of Wyoming.

The three men will visit the model farm at the University of Jordan, Petra, and other archaeological sites in Jordan during their visit, which is expected to last several days.

Jordanian social development efforts praised and encouraged

AMMAN (Petra) — A four-day conference on social development in the Arab World concluded Thursday with a call for a clear and identified concept of social development in the Arab World.

At the end of their meeting, participants in the conference recommended that priority must be given in social development efforts for the next decade to other

and child care, youth both in town and country, and to female education sectors.

The conference also suggested expansion of a project of the sociology department at the University of Jordan which contributes to setting up social development centres in populous areas of the country. It also suggested that the Princess Rahma Centre for Social Development in Hay Haman should be maintained as an experimental model and training centre for Jordanian and Arab students in the community development field.

Lower House approves regulation of preaching

By Lamis K. Andoni and Sa'ad G. Hattar
Jordan Times Staff Reporters

AMMAN — The Lower House of Parliament on Thursday approved a controversial draft law regulating preaching in mosques and the issuance of *fatawa* — judgments related to Islamic affairs — by a majority vote and as formulated by the government.

Contrary to what was expected, the draft law was approved with virtually no debate and after the House turned down a proposal by Deputy Riyadh Nawaiseh to send the law back to the legal committee "as it reflects clear violation of the essence of the Jordanian constitution."

Deputy Laith Shbeilat was quoted as saying that deputies with strong religious feelings in parliament agreed to vote for the law after the government dropped a provision calling for obligatory licensing of preachers.

The new law gives the minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs power to ban preaching or speeches in mosques if the preacher violates guidelines against attacks or provocations aimed at any person or institution.

According to the new law, preachers who violate regulations will first be warned by written notices from the Ministry of Islamic Affairs and in case of a second violation they will face imprisonment terms ranging from one week to one month and fines up to JD 100. The minister is entitled to lift a ban imposed on a preacher if he has reasons behind the ban.

The law also states that the ministry is the party to train and rehabilitate preachers.

Another provision in the law calls for the formation of a preaching and guidance council to be charged with laying down the framework and policy of preaching and guidance. This council will also be entrusted "with creating an atmosphere free of conflicts and divisions and chaos" at mosques throughout the Kingdom.

Dr. Nawaiseh, an outspoken critic of government policies, was

were intended to express the ideas of Prophet Muhammad and not to be used for instigation, accusations, defamations or means of sowing seeds of divisions and spreading disturbances or riots," the prime minister said.

The law was then put to the vote and won unanimous approval. Mr. Rifai thanked the House for the "overwhelming vote" in favour of the law and explained that the new preaching law was very essential.

"It is a procedural measure which aims at creating guidelines for one of the most important issues in the community," he said, adding that the law combines the two objectives of ensuring security and stability in the Kingdom and securing the human and religious message of preaching in accordance with Islamic teachings.

During Thursday's session, a number of deputies also submitted suggestions on behalf of their constituencies in regard to pressing economic issues.

Dr. Azzedine Mubaslat, Deputy for Nablus, called on the government to lift travel restrictions to and from the West Bank. He also urged more funds to improve public services in the occupied territories. Another suggestion made by Dr. Mubaslat was for the issuance of regulations to ease marketing procedures of West Bank agricultural products both locally and on a regional level.

Jerusalem Deputy, Dr. Fu'ad Farraj urged the government to impose constraints and a ceiling on borrowing from foreign sources.

Dr. Farraj said the ceiling should be decided in accordance with the Gross National Product (GNP) of the Kingdom and also with Jordan's ability to fulfill its financial obligations in due time.

Mr. Feisal Jazi, representing Bedouins in the south of the Kingdom, asked the government to give due attention to the Badiyah region and the rural areas generally.

In a written proposal, Irbid Deputy Dr. Ahmad Kofahi, demanded the setting up of a hospital at Yarmouk University to be similar to that at the University of Jordan.

Flooding endangers low-land residents

AMMAN (J.T.) — The rain and snow which fell in Jordan on Wednesday and Thursday blocked roads and caused landslides, according to Public Security Department.

It said that landslides blocked traffic along the Jir Abu Sa'id road in Irbid, roads around Amman were closed due to flooding, and the high road leading to Wadi Fousa and Petra was blocked with snow.

A department statement urged motorists to take extra care in driving along the Amman-Aqaba road. In Karak, people living in tents

in low-lying regions have been moved to safer ground due to the rise in the level of water in wadis and low regions.

A spokesman for the Meteorological Department said Friday that more rain was expected during the day and added that most of the rain over the past two days fell in the southern and central regions of the country.

In Amman, the level of water rose in the streets of Wihlat, Aarka and Saneisani but there were no reports of serious damage.

According to the Meteorological Department Director Ali Abanja the rain came as a result of a cold front from southern Russia and eastern Turkey, blowing cold air into the region and bringing heavy rain and a sharp drop in temperature. He added that another cold depression centered over Europe is expected to affect Jordan in the coming two days.

The Public Security Department said that it set up an operations room to deal with any emergency, and has formed teams to offer first aid to people on the roads and the desert regions.

In Tafleh, civil defence men rescued four people who were cut off by the rising level of water surrounding their home. In Irbid, municipality teams were out on the streets clearing culverts and dealing with the rising levels of water in a number of streets.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Prince Mohammad patronises musical play

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad, the personal representative of His Majesty King Hussein, and Her Royal Highness Princess Taghreeh, deputising for His Majesty King Hussein and Her Majesty Queen Noor, Thursday attended the performances of a Jordanian musical play organised by the Jordanian Bahai society at the Palace of Culture on the occasion of the King's 50th birthday. The opening ceremony was attended by the Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Akef Al Fayed, Minister of Youth Affairs Al Sharaf and a number of officials.

Jordanian-Tunisian relations praised

TUNIS (Petra) — Tunisian Minister of National Economy Rashid Sager has praised Jordanian-Tunisian relations in various fields, especially in the economic sectors. Mr. Sager was speaking following a series of talks which the Ministry of Supply Under-Secretary Abdullah Al Hawaizah, currently visiting Tunisia, held with Tunisian officials. The talks between Jordan and Tunisia came in the framework of implementing trade, economic and industrial agreements signed between the two countries. These agreements include the setting up of Jordanian trade exhibition in Tunisia to enable Tunisian businessmen to familiarise themselves with Jordanian products.

Majali leaves for ALECSO meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Abdul Wahab Al Majali left for Tunisia Friday at the head of a Jordanian delegation to the meetings of the eighth ordinary session of the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organisation (ALECSO), which opened Friday. Among the topics on the agenda of the six-day conference are endorsement of a report by the organisation's director general on its achievements and budget for the seventh session and discussion of ALECSO's draft budget and programmes for 1986/1987.

Yarmouk hosts hypertension seminar for pharmacists

AMMAN (Petra) — A seminar on continuing pharmaceutical education entitled "hypertension" began Friday at Yarmouk University Liaison Office in cooperation with the Jordanian Pharmacists Association (JPA). In the opening ceremony, Yarmouk University Vice-President Marwan Kamal noted that one of the ways the university has worked to strengthen its interaction and ties with the local community is the holding of symposiums on continuing education in various scientific and literary fields.

Acting Dean of the university's faculty of pharmacy Naji Najeb also said that continuing education is one of the major means which should be adopted to improve the scientific and professional standard of pharmacists and to bolster relations between the university on the one hand and the pharmacists in the various sectors on the other hand.

JPA President Ghaleb Al Sabharini also spoke at the opening ceremony and called for expanding the number of such seminars in the various governorates.

The symposium is aimed at familiarising the 100 participating pharmacists with medicines and techniques used in the treatment of and protection against hypertension.

The latest rage in Paris now in Amman.

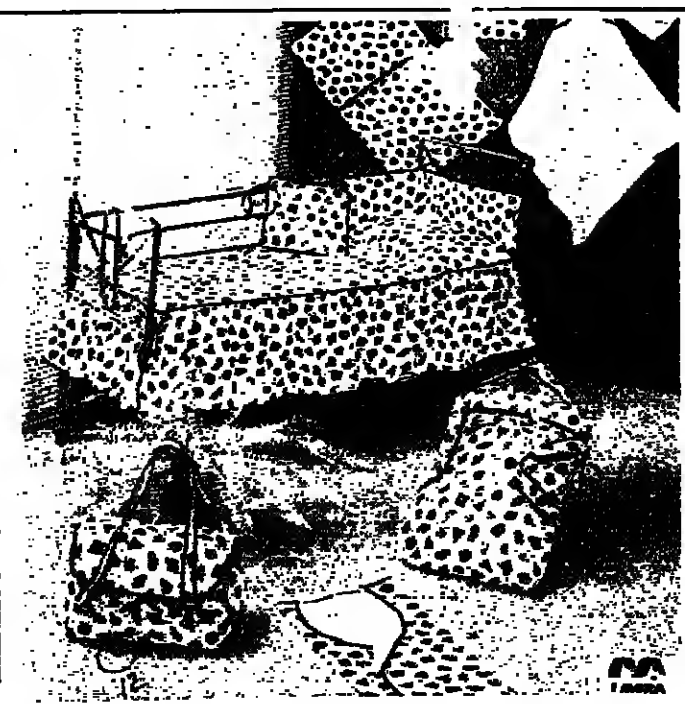
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Channel 6 preview Christmas crackers on JTV

By J.H. Boteler

JINGLE BELLS, Ding Dong merrily on high, etc., Christmas is here. So you will no doubt be thrilled to hear that a special bumper edition of *Jeux Sans Frontières*, a Muppet version of "A Christmas Carol," the 2,000th re-run of "Miracle on 34th Street," *Bernie Winters*, Des O'Connor et al are mercifully absent from your screens this coming week. Rather than run the risk of terminal TV overkill, and nervous wrecks of parents hurling the remains of the plum pudding through the screens in protest at yet another advert for a twinkle-toed Cindy Santa doll that goes burp in the night, JTV have very sensibly kept true to their tried and trusted formula, with the addition of a couple of specials for the season. Right then, to begin.

Comedies

Do you remember "Charles in Charge," an episode where Charles and Buddy had to keep control of a pyromaniac party conducted by the daughter of the house and regiments of her squealing friends, as they caused havoc around the house? Well, it would appear that this was not an isolated incident, but rather something that tends to erupt anywhere, at anytime. Witness tonight's episode of *It's Your Move*, when it's the turn of Julie and her cohorts. Mindful of the fact her loveable sibling Matthew is not likely to show the same sense and restraint as Charles did, she banishes him from the house. But Matt is out to get his own back. Rape and pillage looms. "And What Shall We Do For A Ring?" is the question asked in Sunday's *Chance In A Million*. The answer appears to involve petty crime and grief for all, especially Alison's parents. Mr. and Mrs. Little. Whilst this second series seems to be leaning, unfortunately, more towards basic slapstick than the first did, the characterisation is as strong as ever. Take the Littles themselves: all tears on one side, and crocheted egg-cup holders on the other. A feeble pair of hopeless wimps I hope it is never my bad luck to come across, and one can understand that Alison's attraction to Tom is that "things happen when he is around." They certainly do, dear, and they are also about to happen in a big way on Monday, in the last, deferred, episode of *Three Up, Two Down*, in which Amanda decides to get tough and put her foot down. Since her behaviour so far has hardly been on the angelic side, I shudder to think what she means, but doubtless Sam will hold his own. As for Tuesday, "twas the eve before Christmas" ... and in the Crabtree household all hell was breaking loose. Yes, folks, it's a special seasonal return for poor old embattled Arthur and his selfish, slovenly, manic brood and, of course, the Bottings and their assorted menagerie in *No Place Like Home*. Art spends his time writing cheques, his kids have a continual party, and Vera steals all the mince pies. If any of you should be feeling a slight nostalgic twinge around Tuesday, this programme will show you precisely what you are missing, and make you very glad indeed that you are. Wednesday's *Three's Company* seems to exist in a never-never land of eternal misunderstandings, and this week is no exception, with Mr.

Fairlie arriving home to find a strange woman in his bed. *Emergency Room* on Thursday shows more evidence of Dr. Shinefeld's disinterested devotion to duty as he patches up the finger of a basketball player who is due to play against the doctor's own favourites, and someone shows extremely good sense on Friday as a senior partner of the law-firm for which Sara works comes down-town to close down the particular branch office where she works. You can hardly blame him: a bigger bunch of incompetents one could not dream of having to handle a lawsuit.

Documentaries

Rather a lot of these this week, starting with *Antomama* tonight. A seasonal subject here in a sense, since drunk driving — which causes three deaths every hour in America — is one of the aspects investigated in "Saying Alive." The last 100 years has brought about between 15 and 20 million deaths from road accidents around the world. Apart from drunks, the programme also looks at how a vast percentage of these lives could be saved by the fitting of simple and cheap safety features to all family cars, such as rear seat belts, but that most car manufacturers refuse to do so in order to keep costs down. It will be interesting to see if this programme also acknowledges the ways in which the adoption of some safety features have led, oddly enough, to increased loss of life in other fields. For instance: since the introduction of compulsory wearing of front-seat-belts in England some years ago, the number of deaths amongst front-seat passengers there has fallen dramatically. But there has also been a rise in pedestrians and cyclists killed, since town-drivers now psychologically feel safer and so drive faster. Macabrely, more people are also dying now in England through kidney and liver failure. Why? Because the supply of donor organs from car-crash victims is drying up! Talk about the swings and the roundabouts. Sunday has more from Vista, and an episode entitled "H2 Overview." As the cleverly punning title would suggest, it is all about water. It's supply, or the lack of, the dwindling resources, as in the Amazon delta, pollution, and means of filtering it. Wednesday has, on the surface, a very seasonal programme indeed for Christmas Day, since the episode is called "Eat, Drink, And Be Merry." But not really since, though food is mentioned, it is only really in the context of how the need to supply and feed the modern armies brought about canned foods. The rest of the programme has a rollicking good time examining spears, guns and missile fuel. Remember the second half of this episode's title? Finally, Friday has the first part of a two-part documentary that should delight all film-buffs: an in-depth study of the career of one of the greatest of all modern film directors, David Lean. In the five decades in which he has been working, Lean has directed (and in many instances also written) relatively few films, but they have all been masterpieces, picking up between them no fewer than 26 Oscars. Films such as "Great Expectations" (1934), "Oliver Twist" (1948), "The Bridge On The River Kwai" (1957), "Ryan's Daughter" (1970), and most recently, "A Passage To India"

(1984), have all attested to his superb range of skills and breadth of vision, and his ability to bring out the best in his star actors, notable amongst whom is Alec Guinness. It is typical of Lean's skill that a large proportion of his Oscars have been won in two departments: music and, more importantly, photography. Also indicative of his strength is the fact that he stays true to people he has been well served by in the past: Guinness for acting Maurice Jarre for music, and Frederick A. Young for photography. (It must be said that his other major film — which is quite understandably not referred to in this documentary, fails because it relies for source material on a fallacious and self-aggrandising book, but succeeds where all Lean's films succeed: in acting, music and photography. On reflection it is perhaps a pity that here these aspects were so successful, bearing in mind how the West believes it sees on the screen, and if you don't know which film I am talking about, then what the mind doesn't know, the heart needn't grieve over).

Drama and detectives

Only three dramas this week. *Love Boat*, of course, on Sunday, in which a basketball team keeps knocking an elderly couple of second-honeymooners into the bilges. It has to be an improvement over last week's drive about love-lorn Mermaids. Tuesday sees the last and positively final, for ever and ever, episode of *The Secret Of The Black Dragon*. Christmas was celebrated by this early, since last week saw a charming Chinese village handing over all its women to the sweaty

Tonight	
<i>It's Your Move</i>	8.30
<i>Antomama</i>	9.00
Varieties	9.30
Feature film:	
<i>Anna Karenina</i>	10.20
Sunday	
<i>Chance In A Million</i>	8.30
<i>Vista</i>	9.10
<i>Love Boat</i>	10.20
Monday	
<i>Three Up, Two Down</i>	8.30
<i>Bergerac</i>	9.10
<i>Murder, She Wrote</i>	10.20
Tuesday	
<i>No Place Like Home</i>	8.30
<i>Secret of the Black Dragon</i>	9.10
Feature film:	
<i>Mod Squad</i>	10.20
Wednesday	
<i>Three's Company</i>	8.30
<i>Connections</i>	9.10
<i>Remington Steele</i>	10.20
Thursday	
<i>Emergency Room</i>	8.30
<i>An Inspector Calls (Last Act)</i>	9.00
Varieties	9.30
Feature film:	
<i>Scorned and Swindled</i>	10.20
Friday	
<i>Sara</i>	8.30
<i>David Lean (Part One)</i>	9.10
<i>Simon and Simon</i>	10.20



Are you the fairy on my Christmas tree? Anna Karenina, tonight at 10:20 — (File photo)

and grizzled travellers. Wolf was quite happy about what he found in his Christmas stocking, and immediately took to frolicking with her beneath a waterfall, but was not prepared to be discovered by Nadja, who took umbrage and stomped off. (Sob). Father Pereira, however, was none too pleased with his prezzie, and took to philosophising: "How can travellers from the civilised lands of Europe hope to convince these savages of the evil of their ways, when they delight in giving away living women as gifts?" A bit odd, the good Father's viewpoint: first off, were the Chinese savages because they smiled a lot and did not burn anyone at the stake, as in the civilised West, where the only blokes who habitually smiled were the ones turning the thumbscrew? Or were they savages because they gave away "living women"? Would the good Jesuit have preferred dead women? If so, then I would suggest that if it's a dead bird that you want, Pereira old boy, you had best stick to turkey. As for Nadja, I think it's about time she stopped complaining about Ivan. True, he has got a rather weird hairstyle (ideal for fronting a rock-band though), but he did manage to save her life twice last week, first from a burning tent, and then from being gobbled up by quicksand. He has her interests at heart far more than sappy old Wolf does, with all his moaning about and navel-contemplating. On the whole though, a bit disappointing last week. No hangings, head-chopping or hat nailing: merely some old dobbin getting roasted and eaten. Not really up to scratch, so it is perhaps just as well that this week sees the finish. Will it all end happily? I doubt it. If, on Thursday, you are feeling the effects of the gastronomic over-indulgence of the previous two days, then spare a thought for the Birling family, whose rough treatment at the hands of Inspector Goole has brought on a massive bout of communal indigestion, in *An Inspector Calls*. The third and final act this week, and terrible recriminations all round. But then a suspicion is aroused: is the Inspector actually who he says he is? Has any girl died at all? Is it, in fact, the same girl? Prepare yourselves for a stunning and very thought-provoking finale.

Detectives are easily dealt with this week. Monday has last week's deferred, and final, episode of *Bergerac*, with Jim and Frankie pursuing a no good Gallic and his girl, while later that evening *Murder, She Wrote* investigates the murder of a woman film director. Another film-director, male this time, is done in in the final episode

of *Remington Steele* on Wednesday, chief suspects being the leading actor the director was threatening to replace, and the corpse's girl-friend. And on Friday *Simon and Simon* manage to bungle their job of guarding a bag full of swag (it gets stolen) and they are suspected of complicity in the theft.

Feature films

Before dealing with this week, I should mention the end of "Aces High" (last Saturday). This was sadly truncated. (No fault of JTV, I am sure, rather a very bad editing job on the original print). The film should not have ended with the young recruit totalling head-on into another plane, as it did, but with weary Malcolm McDowell writing a very impersonal letter of condolence to the family, and then putting on a smile to welcome the latest batch of three fresh-faced innocents. Much more harrowing altogether. As for this week, two of these I have very little information on, so will deal with them first. Tuesday's is called *Mod Squad* (would you believe) and is the pilot that gave rise to the series of the same name, which I can't recall ever seeing, but suffice it to say that it's about these three mates who team up to discover who's been trying to bump off their big buddy, a top policeman. Scorned and Swindled on Thursday is all about a young man who goes about swearing undying love to women, marrying them and then stealing their money. Which only leaves us to talk about tonight's film, a two-hour plus, made-for-TV, (1985) adaptation

of the Leo Tolstoy classic of love, deceit, fate and general gloom and despondency, *Anna Karenina*. Beautiful Jacqueline Bisset plays the doomed heroine, and Christopher Reeve, firmly earthbound after his exploits as Superman, her dashing and handsome lover Count Aleksey Vronsky. Other prominent actors in this lavish production are Ian Ogilvy as Anna's brother Siva and the magnificent Paul Scofield as her husband.

Well, that's it for the festive season. A pretty varied week, all told, and let's face it: if Christmas is your particular religious festival, then you are probably too involved with other activities to bother with watching TV, and if it is not, well then it's business as normal. (Apart from your poor put-upon reviewer-as-per-usual-whose deadline for next week just happens to be 7 p.m. on Christmas day! Groan). I am of course mindful of all those poor harassed mothers who, on Wednesday morning, are liable to find themselves having to cope with: defrosting the turkey, idiot husbands asking for plugs for their new computer games machines — oh, sorry, I mean home-processors, the dog who has eaten all the yuletide log and has been sick on the carpet, and screaming children who have exhausted or broken all their toys and are bored. Whilst wall-to-wall cartoons would be a help here, remember that very useful advice given by English football fans: "Hit 'em on the head, hit 'em on the head, hit 'em on the head with a baseball bat, oh yeah, oh yeah." A very Merry Christmas to all of you.



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China's open door policy brings in all 'values' of the West

National Geographic

WASHINGTON — Arms locked, a chanting, swaying crowd of 300 to 400 students surges toward the door of the city government offices in Chengdu, China. "Give us back our lives!" the cry goes up. The students are protesting an explosion in a chemistry laboratory at Chongqing University. No satisfactory explanation has been offered by university authorities, and no preventive measures have been taken. "Not since the Cultural Revolution have I seen a student onlooker. But it is more concrete than the ideological protests of the Red Guards that started in the mid-1960s. Chongqing is a major city in Sichuan, China's most populous province, a sprawling, mountainous territory slightly larger than France.

Birthplace of reformer

Sichuan, birthplace of China's chief, Deng Xiaoping, is "a seedbed of the reforms that are altering the economy and the everyday life of China." Ross Terrill writes in the September National Geographic. "The changes startle the visitor who remembers the slogans and the puritanism of the country in the last years of Mao

Zedong." Compared with the 1970s, when he journeyed through the People's Republic five times, "the lid is off China," Terrill writes. "In the nine years since the death of Mao, Deng has moved China from totalitarianism to authoritarianism; from a mentality that clung to revolutionary values as to a talisman to one that considers economic results the test of socialism's validity." A driver in Chengdu, 2,000-year-old capital of Sichuan, publicly berates a woman cyclist who has veered into the side-view mirror of his Toyota. Few Sichuanese worry about maintaining a false sense of civility around foreigners. Chengdu's streets swarm with people wearing everything from old-style baggy blue trousers and jackets to jeans and brightly coloured sweaters. Some men wear broad-brimmed felt hats reminiscent of Western styles of the 1950s. Some women click along on high heels. "Leave Home for Work Happily, Return Home from Work Safely," a billboard advises. Reportedly it used to urge, "Carry Through Revolution to the End." Dapper young men peddle black-market cigarettes on the streets. In building nearby, a mother of two boys life insurance. "These days," she says, "if you don't care for yourself, no one else

is going to care for you."

Keen on makeup

In the Communist world, International Women's Day is usually a serious occasion. This year in Chengdu, a Women's Day fashion show featured heavily made-up men and women models in Western dress. West of Chengdu in agricultural Wenjiang County, one tenant farmer grosses 80,000 yuan (about \$28,000) a year from wild flowers and potted plants. He is a symbol of rural Sichuan's commercialisation in a time of vanishing communes. He and his family have won accolades for their generous contributions to county schools. They have lent money to their less well-to-do neighbours, inspiring needy visitors to gather solemnly outside their walls. Begging, too, is making a comeback. In polluted, scruffy Chongqing, China's new pragmatism is raw. An official is asked about doing business with companies from outside the province. His reply is swift and decisive: "We recognise money, not people." A young factory worker, spending freely on his girlfriend, says he's been receiving a high bonus, as much as 40 per cent of his salary. "With bonuses, the top is topless and the bottom is bot-

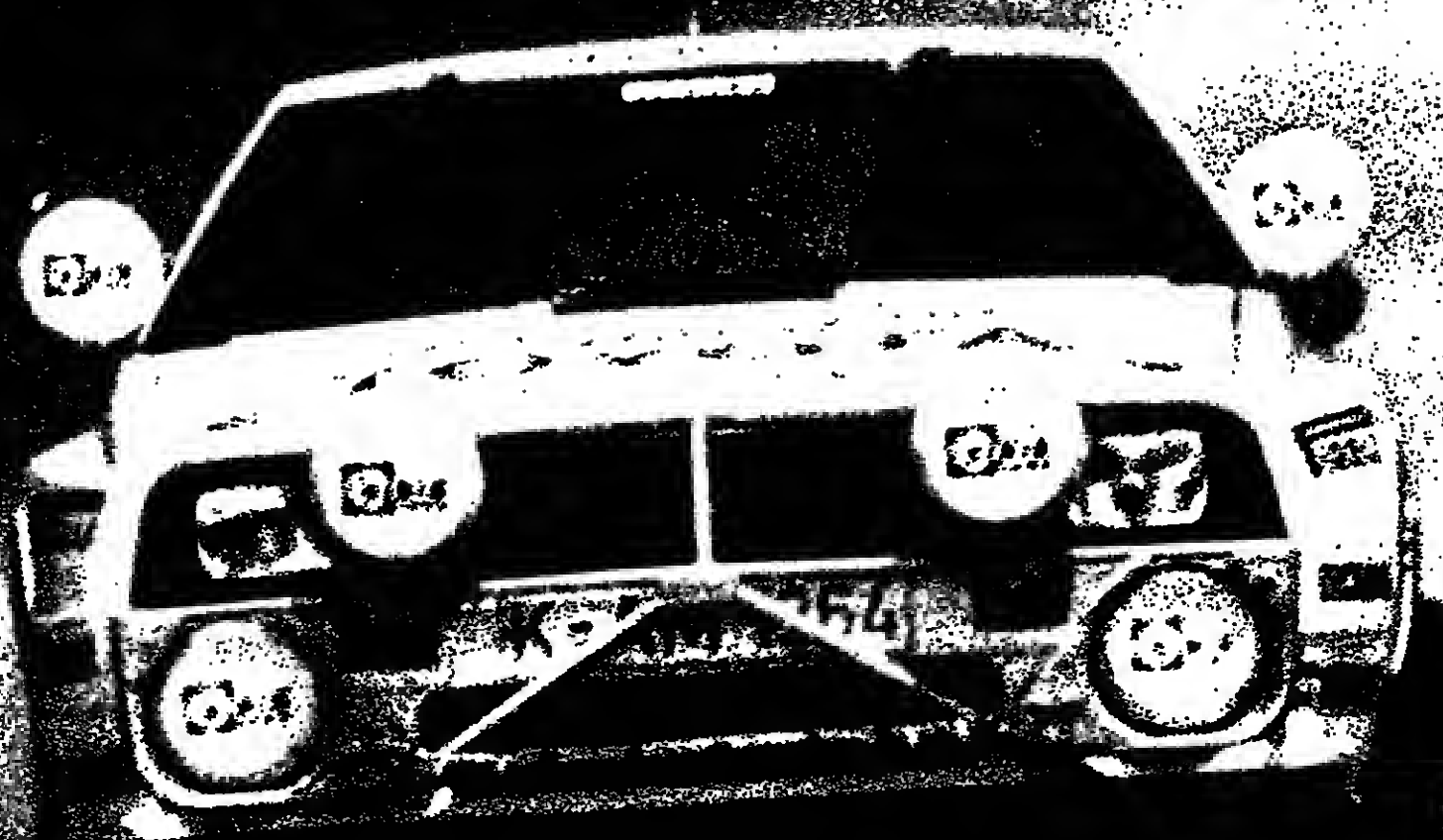
tomless," he quips.

The Jialing Motorbike Factory produces motorbikes, symbols of prosperity in Sichuan, in a plant that manufactured machine tools and weapons for 30 years. "In today's world," explains the factory's chief engineer, "you can't just produce artillery all the time." Sichuan's new look includes a surprisingly vigorous spiritual life that includes a variety of faiths. But, Terrill writes after he sees a sentry outside a bookshop in the ancient city of Leshan. "The Communist Party is still very nervous about Western cultural influence." The sentry has a list of "forbidden acts" and a pile of what seem to be confiscated tape cassettes. "Unhealthy music," he explains.

Nude statues draped

At the Yangtze River bridge in Chongqing, the statues of four athletes, two men and two women, are draped in scarves at the waist. Originally they were nude, but the controversy that ensued led to their draping. "Had the struggle occurred in 1985, rather than four years ago," the sculptor says, "the outcome would be different — my athletes would be nude." "Socialist values (if not forms) are out the window," Terrill writes. "The vehicle is hurting, but no one is too sure where the road leads."

Toyota the winner in both Ivory Coast and Safari Rallies in 1985.



After four days of violent rainstorms, jungle heat and fierce roads, two Toyota Celica Turbos plunged across the finish line to a thrilling one-two victory in the 1985 Ivory Coast Rally. For Toyota, it was a repeat of their dual triumph in the Safari Rally earlier in the year, as champion drivers J. Kankkunen and B. Waldegaard

dominated the race. Neither had serious problems with their cars, though only 8 of 50 starters finished. Once again, these superbly strong, reliable Celicas proved the championship quality and technological superiority of Toyota in world class competition.

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'Latest U.S. position on Mideast conference is not new'

(Continued from page 1)

The U.S. official's remarks on Wednesday appeared to indicate a more flexible U.S. attitude towards Soviet and Syrian participation in the proposed conference which Washington and Israel previously opposed.

The U.S. official, who is closely connected to Middle East issues, said that Syria was showing signs of easing its opposition to Arab-Israeli peace talks.

"The fact is, it was not an absurd subject to talk about the peace process a few weeks ago in Damascus," he said. "They have clear positions... but they're ready to discuss (peace) and that was a change from six, seven months previously."

The U.S. official said he did not believe that Syria's movement last month of anti-aircraft missiles closer to the Lebanese border was an attempt to stall the peace process.

Rather, he said, "I see it in context of their whole defence arrangements."

The U.S. official also said that the idea of a U.S.-Jordanian-Palestinian meeting, which could have been a major move towards a more significant peace dialogue, has been "relegated to the sidelines."

The official said the broader problems of a U.S.-Jordanian-Palestinian meeting, rather than the difficulty in finding acceptable Palestinian participants, "sidelined" the idea.

U.S. diplomats said here on Friday that U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy has no immediate plans to return to the Middle East to discuss his country's stand on the issue of an international conference. The diplomats said that a new visit to the region by the American official would have to wait for new developments in the area.

"The U.S. remains very much engaged" in efforts to solve the Palestinian problem and "we would not be surprised by Mr. Murphy's coming back here in the new year, him being our point man," one diplomat said. "However, the assistant secretary of state has no immediate plans to come here and any new visit by him would wait for new developments in the region."

In Tel Aviv, Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir said on Friday that Israel will not agree to negotiate with Jordan within the framework of an international conference.

"Our friends from the United States must know that if they come up with a formula for an international conference... this is not satisfactory. We will not accept it," Reuters quoted Shamir as saying at a businessmen's club.

The foreign minister's comments appeared to be in divergence from the official stand taken by Prime Minister Shimon Peres. The Israeli premier has expressed a desire for direct talks with Jordan but has said Israel would be willing for negotiations to be launched at an international forum.

In Washington on Thursday, State Department deputy spokesman Charles Redman told questioners that direct negotiations between Israel and Jordan remains the U.S. objective in the current phase of the Middle East peace process. And he said there is a need for establishing an international context of support for those negotiations.

He was asked about comments made by the senior State Department official who spoke on Wednesday.

"Our objective in this phase of the Middle East peace process remains direct negotiations," Redman said. "We have many times noted our understanding of Jordan's desire for an international context and have said that we would be working with the parties to achieve a context that meets the political needs of those involved," the deputy spokesman said. "In our view, such a context, by whatever name — and the senior official went through those options in detail — must lead promptly to direct negotiations and must not be able to impose its own will on the negotiating parties."

Redman emphasised that it was more important for the parties directly involved to agree on the shape and role of such a supportive context than to call it by any specific name. He noted that a number of descriptive names have been used including auspices, framework, context, and international arrangements.

Coup attempt foiled in Nigeria

(Continued from page 1)

name or nationality, said they had not been given the names of the coup plotters.

But they speculated that the location of the attempt signalled a flaring of dissidence from the once-dominant Hausa-Fulani elite which recently has criticised the military regime of Maj.-Gen. Ibrahim Babangida for appointing only two of its members to the 28-man armed forces ruling council.

Gen. Babangida came to power last Aug. 27 in a barracks coup which ousted the regime of Maj. Gen. Mohammad Buhari. Gen. Buhari came from the northern Hausa-Fulani elite, as did the group which dominated the country under the previous civilian government.

The Hausa-Fulani elite is sometimes called the Kaduna mafia, after the town of Kaduna in northern Nigeria.

Gen. Babangida has reacted to the Hausa-Fulani criticism by calling on the military to be on the alert for internal subversion. In an address to the armed forces, he said, "You must expect that we have enemies who will not relent in their futile efforts to destabilise this nation."

Gen. Babangida also has faced criticism from labour leaders who have opposed his strict austerity measures. When he took power there were reports that he acted to stem a coup led by radical junior officers.

Nigeria has been under military rule since Jan. 1, 1984, when the elected civilian government of President Shugu Shagari was ousted.

Gen. Baki told the Lagos press conference on Friday that the coup plotters opposed the government's action in cancelling negotiations for a \$2.5 billion loan from the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Gen. Baki said the plotters also opposed the government's position on human rights.

They also resented the fact that some officials from the former government of Gen. Buhari had been retained in top posts while other middle-level officers had been appointed to top positions.

Gen. Baki said the plotters saw no reason why Nigeria should reject the IMF loan and instead cut military salaries since, they claimed, the military was not responsible for Nigeria's economic woes.

Gen. Babangida stopped negotiations with the IMF last week following a national public debate which rejected conditions for the controversial loan.

U.S. spy probe team leaves Israel

(Continued from page 1)

The source quoted by the Post refused to elaborate but added the problem would be a matter of dispute for some time to come. However, other sources who spoke on condition of anonymity told the Associated Press that the differences were semantical and not substantive.

The four who left were U.S. attorney Joseph Digenova, Justice Department officials Mark Richards and John Martin and an unnamed FBI agent.

The arrest of Pollard caused the most severe strain in Israeli-American relations since Israel's invasion of Lebanon in 1982.

Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres issued an apology in the name of the coalition government and promised to disband any operation found to be spying on its principle ally.

But the government appeared uncertain as to how far to go in cooperating with the investigation. Fears were expressed in Israel's media that too close cooperation would weaken morale in the intelligence services and that a political crisis could be triggered if officials were held publicly accountable for the affair.

The Post described the talks as tense even though the ground rules for the investigation had been agreed to during talks in Washington between Secretary of State George Shultz and Moshe Arens, a cabinet member who served as ambassador to Washington and defence minister in the period Pollard worked for Israel.

The Post revealed that under the ground rules, U.S. officials were to be allowed to question all Israelis directly involved in the affair, down to the secretary who worked in the office of one of the diplomats recalled from the United States after Pollard's arrest. But the questions on Pollard's activities were restricted.

The ground rules allowed for documents to be presented, but only those that were not classified and did not endanger other aspects of the intelligence community, the Post reported.

The U.S. government demanded the return of secret documents, and the Davar daily newspaper reported from Washington that the U.S. investigators returned home with all of the classified documents which Pollard allegedly gave to Israeli agents. The report did not name its sources.

In an effort to protect Pollard, the government promised to present everything pertinent to Pollard's case with the provision that it would not constitute evidence which could be used in court. The Post quoted well placed sources as saying that after six days of intensive talks, including 13 hours of uninterrupted conversations which ended Thursday morning, the U.S. investigators were satisfied they had a clear picture of all aspects of the case.

The Post said the joint statement which was to have been issued at the end of the talks was meant to signal that the United States fulfilled its promise to offer full co-operation in the investigation.

He charged that the "Lebanese Forces," led by Elie Hobeika, were still influenced by Israel.

"Yesterday (Thursday) we were about to sign the agreement, but as usual, changes appeared in the last minute," Mr. Berri said in a speech at a mass rally in the Bekaa Valley town of Chitaura.

"They (the Christians) are back talking about hegemony and taking their inspiration from the skies where Israeli planes fly every day," Mr. Berri said.

Beirut newspapers said the main point of contention in the talks was the "Lebanese Forces" demand that the sectarian system

Lebanese leaders end talks

(Continued from page 1)

Berri and Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader Walid Junblatt had early morning consultations with Syrian Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam before Mr. Junblatt left Damascus.

Mr. Berri blamed the "Lebanese Forces" for the deadlock over the accord.

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Beirut newspapers said the main point of contention in the talks was the "Lebanese Forces" demand that the sectarian system

be phased out in 16 to 19 years. Mr. Junblatt and Mr. Berri had originally insisted on a five-year transitional period.

But in the last two days of renewed talks under Mr. Khaddam, Syria's top expert on Lebanese affairs, the two warlords agreed to a 10-year transition, newspapers reported.

Despite gloomy reports from the Syrian capital about the talks, the rightist Al Amal newspaper said on Friday they would be resumed within a few days.

Al Amal said the executive committee of the "Lebanese Forces" was due to meet Friday in east Beirut to review developments and then send its negotiators back to Damascus.

By conservative estimate, more than 100,000 people have been killed in the decade-old civil war. Police reported that nearly 6,000 have been killed this year alone, with 9,300 seriously wounded or maimed.

U.N. ends anniversary session

(Continued from page 1)

This is a result of a decision by the United States Congress — opposed by the White House — to cut the American contribution to the U.N.'s \$860 million budget next year from 25 per cent to 20 per cent in protest against what it considers to be runaway spending and a refusal to allow those members who pay the biggest share to impose financial curbs.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar said he could not make greater economies and now it was up to member states to deal with the problem.

Earlier, in a rare criticism of the United States, he told the assembly that the proposed cut in its contribution was destructive and contrary to the charter. If the sum withheld was as foreseen — \$42 million from the United Nations and \$40 million from specialised agencies — it would place U.N. financial viability under enormous strain.

The cut will take effect in the 1987 fiscal year that begins next Oct. 1. Under the scale of assessments, the United States is by far the biggest contributor, accounting for about \$198 million of this year's U.N. budget.

S.African commandos raid Angola, Lesotho

(Continued from page 1)

blames on the African National Congress (ANC) which is trying to end white rule of South Africa by force.

South African commandos using guns fitted with silencers raided two homes in Maseru early on Friday, killing nine people, including South African political refugees and Lesotho nationals, Lesotho Radio reported.

Residents and South African news reports said seven of the victims, four black men and three black women who were among guests at a party at one home, were shot to death in a house in Maseru's Hootho township. It is only about 300 metres from the South African border.

The two other victims, a white woman and a mixed race man who

lived together, were killed in a separate attack on their nearby home.

Lesotho Radio, in a lunchtime broadcast, said the victims were "brutally murdered during a raid on two homes by South African commandos using guns fitted with silencers."

Police stood guard outside the home where the seven blacks were gunned down. Reporters at the scene said blood was spattered in the dining room.

Lesotho Radio said the attack took place before dawn. In Johannesburg, the Star newspaper said the white woman killed was a South African identified as Miss Quinn. She and her mixed-race companion had a nine-month-old baby who escaped injury, the newspaper said.

Lesotho Radio said police were searching for the owner of the house who had hosted the party and, in the words of the radio, "lured" the guests to their deaths.

The Star quoted neighbours as saying they heard no shots, indicating the attackers used silencers. It quoted one eyewitness who watched police carry out the bodies of the seven blacks as saying they were riddled with bullets. All were fully clothed.

Informed South African sources, who declined to be further identified, told Reuters that a small contingent of troops were on Friday continuing the Angolan operation that began at the weekend in pursuit of South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) guerrillas.



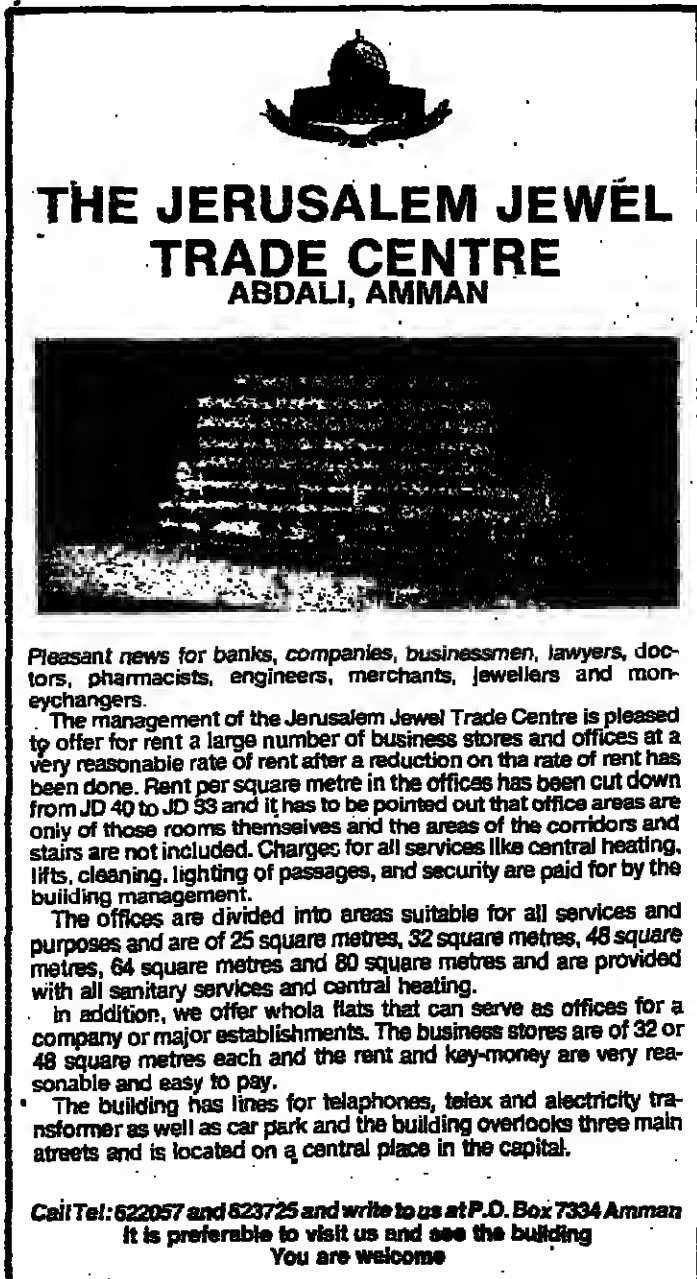
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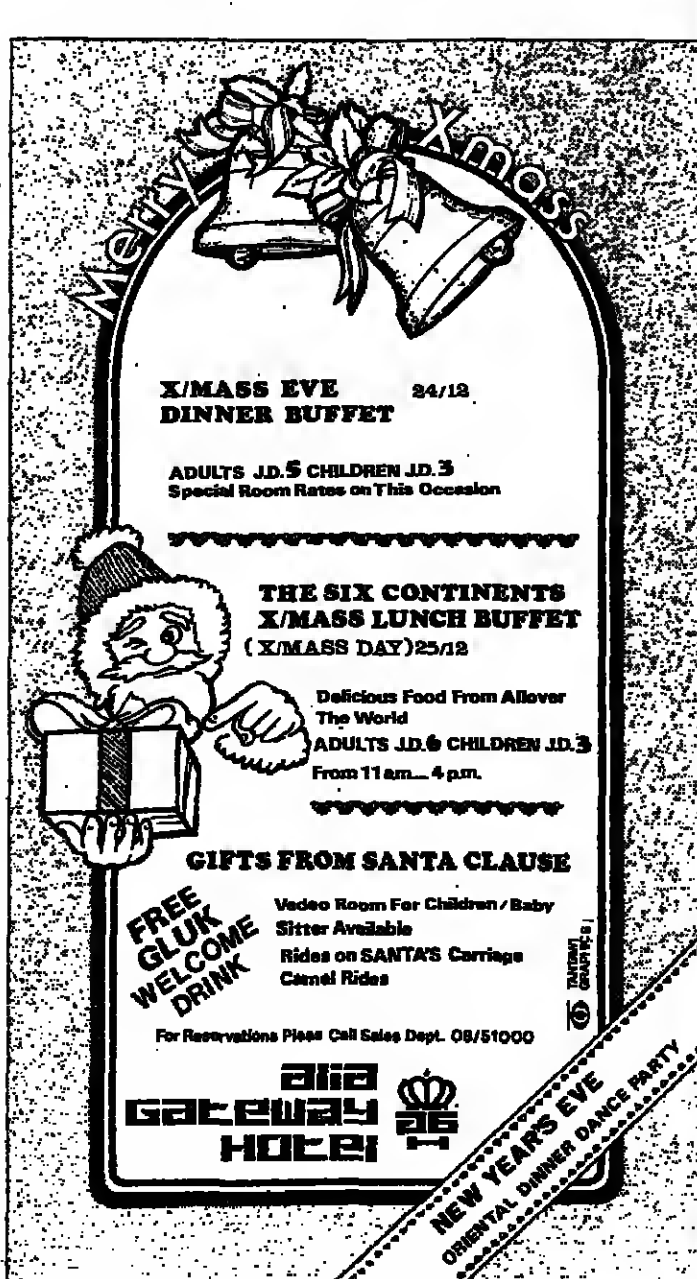
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Wilander gives Sweden early lead in Davis Cup

MUNICH, West Germany (R) — Mats Wilander put Sweden into the lead in the Davis Cup tennis final Friday when he beat West Germany's Michael Westphal 6-3, 6-4, 10-8 in the opening singles.

The ice-cool Swede refused to be put off by the atmosphere in the Munich Olympiahalle where 3,000 West Germans tried to lift Westphal with incessant cheering.

Westphal, known for his brave comebacks in Davis Cup matches, joked for a while as he might threaten the Swede in the third set.

He came from a break down to level at 4-4, the first time he had broken Wilander's service, and

began to play with greater ease and confidence.

But the clinical Wilander did not let him off the hook a second time. He broke for 9-8 when Westphal put a simple forehand into the net at 30-40 and served out for love to win the match in two hours 24 minutes.

The powerful Westphal produced 18 aces in the match, being played on a super-fast carpet, but Wilander served even more ste-

adily and found time for 12 aces of his own.

In the end he was simply too good and too consistent for Westphal, who found himself outplayed by the Swede's ground strokes if he stayed back and was the victim of several delicate lobs when he went into the net.

Wilander got an early break in each of the first two sets and rarely looked in danger on his own serve. Westphal had only five break-points in the entire match.

Wilander said: "I did not expect it to be that easy until 4-3 in the third set. I expected to win but I'm still happy."

Rule change could hurt four teams

MEXICO CITY (R) — World up qualifiers Spain, Algeria, Portugal and Morocco have fallen victim to an unprecedented change in the rules that could seriously jeopardise their cup hopes. The four nations will be forced to play the last of their three opening round games in a city hundreds of miles from their actual seat and at a totally different altitude.

The move, likely to cause uprisings in the four nations once they realise its implications, was decided by soccer's governing body, International Football Federation (FIFA).

Sources close to FIFA said here decision was at the request of Mexican organisers and aimed at bringing in more gate money. What it means is that Spain and Algeria, in Group D with Brazil and Northern Ireland in the west-city of Guadalajara, will have to play their last match, against Portugal, in the hot, dusty, low-lying city of Monterrey on June 11. That is almost 800 kilometres

away and more than 1,000 metres lower than Guadalajara.

For Portugal and Morocco, co-testing Group F in Monterrey with Poland and England, the situation is the reverse. They have to move from Monterrey to Guadalajara for their final match on June 11.

To make matters worse, should either of the four affected teams — Spain, Algeria, Portugal or Morocco — finish top of their first round group, they will have to move back to their original city, Monterrey or Guadalajara, for their next match, in the last 16 knock-out phase.

The switch of venues stemmed first from a good cause. FIFA insisted that the two last matches in each group be played at exactly the same time to prevent any team from gaining an unfair advantage by knowing the result of the other match.

This was a direct result of the notorious match between West Germany and Austria in the 1982 World Cup in Spain, when the two sides played out a draw which ensured their passage into the fol-

lowing phase.

Spain and Algeria will play their last match at exactly the same time as their group D opponents, Brazil and Northern Ireland. But they will have to move from Guadalajara to Monterrey to do so.

The Mexican organisers felt gate money — and major income from world TV coverage — would be lost if those two matches were played in Guadalajara at the same time on June 12, the source close to FIFA told Reuters.

The same went for Monterrey on June 11, so Portugal and Morocco will have to tramp to Guadalajara for their last match.

As a result, Guadalajara fans will not have to miss a match. They will be able to see Morocco play Portugal in the Third of March Stadium at 2200 GMT on June 11 and Brazil v. Northern Ireland in the Jalisco Stadium at 1800 GMT the following day.

Monterrey fans will get a chance to watch both Poland v. England in the University Stadium at 2200 GMT on June 11 and Spain v. Algeria at 1800 GMT the next day.

And the organisers will not lose any money despite the new simultaneous kick-off regulation.



HERE'S TO MORE SPRING IN YOUR STEP: U.S. Ambassador to Jordan Paul H. Becker (far right) donated the shoes on behalf of the United States Information Service in Amman to team coach Robert Taylor (second right), team captain Murad Barakat, and other team members.

Poland unhappy with Monterrey venue

WARSAW, Poland (AP) — Poland's official government news agency PAP said Thursday the International Federation of Association Football (FIFA) had acted unfairly in deciding that Poland should play its first-round matches in next year's World Cup soccer tournament in hot, humid Monterrey, Mexico.

PAP said "it is in fact unknown what sensible criteria" FIFA officials used in deciding where Poland and the five other group leaders would play. The other heads of the four-team groups are Mexico, West Germany, Brazil, Italy and France.

"A question arises — how did Poland find itself in Monterrey? — by coincidence or rather from a smaller force of impact at FIFA, and fewer connections in the federation," PAP said.

PAP said there would have been few "controversies" or "sus-

picious" if the site allocations had been determined by a lottery.

"Then the issue would have been clear, but in this situation there are doubts whether FIFA played fair," PAP said.

Monterrey with its "sticky heat and smog evoked reluctance in nearly all the finalists, maybe excluding those from Africa," PAP said.

It added that because Monterrey is situated at a lower altitude than the other eight Mexican cities where World Cup matches will be played the teams advancing from Poland's Group F will face "a sudden change" which "may have a very unfavourable influence on the organism and the players' frame of mind."

Monterrey, which is 950 kilometres north of Mexico city, is only 525 metres above sea level. In another development, PAP said the Portuguese major league

club FC Porto is seeking permission from the Polish Soccer Federation to sign the Polish national team's goalie Jozef Mlynarczyk, who currently plays for the French first division club Bastia in Corsica.

Mlynarczyk was interested in the transfer because Bastia "is on the verge of bankruptcy" and its players "have been playing for free" since September, PAP said.

Mlynarczyk told PAP that "staying at Bastia would not guarantee proper preparation for the World Cup."

PAP added that playing for FC Porto would give Mlynarczyk "a great opportunity" to familiarise himself with the soccer style in Portugal, one of Poland's main rivals in the World Cup first round. England and Morocco are the other teams playing in Group F in Monterrey.

Captain Tuna seeks to reclaim America's Cup

By Reg Gratton
Reuters

FREMANTLE, Western Australia — Day in, day out, two yachts called simply US-42 and US-44 are out on the water bent on a multi-million dollar campaign of revenge.

The boats are readying themselves amid the tightest security for the New York Yacht Club's bid to reclaim the America's Cup, the sport's most famous trophy.

"The preparations are well advanced — yes, we're ready, but it's gonna be one helluva job to get it back," said captain Arthur Wulschleger, veteran operations manager for the New York Yacht Club's challenge.

Wulschleger, nicknamed "Captain Tuna," has dubbed his Fremantle campaign nerve centre, with its high wire fencing and security guard patrols, "The compound."

Ben Lexcen, brilliant designer of the Australian boat which two years ago broke the United States' 132-year grip on the America's Cup, has a different name for it: Stalag 17.

The New York club's bid to regain the "Auld Mug" from the Australians is the most ruthless and professional of any mounted by the record 14 foreign entries.

The three sets of challengers' trials start next October, with the finals to be held mid-January 1987. The best-of-seven series for the Cup itself will open on January 31, 1987.

Wulschleger, with a budget of \$12 million, has had boats with secret clip-on keels and more than 30 team members sailing for the last two summers off the west Australian coast where the races will be held.

"We are going out six days a week, eight hours a day, every day, rain or shine," said Wulschleger, 67, a cloth manufacturer on leave from his business for three years.

He is indifferent to other challenges who are conducting trials elsewhere, including the club's main U.S. rival, the Sail America syndicate, currently testing off the Hawaiian coast.

Several Australians involved in the cup defence have said the San Diego-based Sail America syndicate under skipper Dennis Con-

ner is likely to emerge as the final challenger.

But Wulschleger has another view. "We believe it's important to sail the boat in the water where it's all going to take place. That's why we are here," he said.

The weather and water conditions are very different from those off Newport, Rhode Island, where the challenger Australia II won the dramatic seven-race series in September 1983.

The New York syndicate has made no decision on which of its 12-metre boats will challenge at America II and already plans to build a third boat, US-46, using the experience gained over the last two years.

Last month club officials took the unprecedented decision to sell their boats against one of Australia's defence contenders, Kookaburra.

The controversial showdown, despite having all the appearances of a race, gave little away because both teams agreed that they would be trials without results.

But they set shock waves through the other Australian syndicates whose fight to win the right to defend the cup in the final series has been intense, sometimes bitter.

Warren Jones, director of the defence spearheaded by Alan Bond, the millionaire businessman behind Australia II's victory, said he was opposed to any pre-match competition with overseas challengers.

Bond's boats Australia II and Australia III have been testing mostly against each other since the latter's launch in a blaze of publicity two months ago.

Kookaburra, the yacht of west Australian, supermodel tycoon Kevin Parry's Taskforce 87 defence, has just completed a successful campaign against South Australia, the boat of a syndicate headed by a top 12-metre skipper Sir James Hardy.

The competition among the Australian syndicates boiled over last month when Kookaburra's syndicate lodged a formal protest after one of its small power boats had been rammed by a Bond support craft.

Bond in turn warned that boats spying on his crew could be sunk, particularly since the syndicate had received bomb threats.

Soccer to return to British TV

LONDON (AP) — English league soccer, which has not appeared on domestic television screens since last August, could be back on the air by early next year following secret talks between the sport's administrators and TV bosses.

Earlier this month, the two sides announced that the country's national sport would be wiped off the screens until the end of the present season, saying negotiations to solve a long-running financial dispute had broken down "irretrievably."

But press reports Friday quoted officials as saying an agreement was on the verge of being reached.

Andy Williamson, spokesman for the Football League, which administers the four professional

divisions in England and Wales, commented:

"It is true we are having another meeting with the television companies where we hope to finalise details. But the basis of an agreement has already been reached."

The reports said soccer administrators had agreed to sign a \$1.7 million deal to put the game back on television in the new year and that they had backed down over the TV companies' demands to screen six league matches live.

In return, the reports said, television had promised to increase considerably the number of matches from which recorded highlights would be taken. TV companies had wanted to gradually phase out recorded games.

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S.Korea willing to compromise on Olympics

TOKYO (AP) — South Korea's deputy foreign minister said Thursday his country is willing to make concessions regarding the 1988 Seoul Olympic Games if North Korea recognises the South Korean capital as the site of the Games, an official of Japan's foreign ministry reported.

Deputy Foreign Minister Lee Sang-Ok made the remark when he met with Japanese counterpart Kensuke Yanagiya, said the official, who declined to be named.

Lee told Yanagiya that some events could be held in North Korea with the understanding that Seoul is the Olympic host city, the official said.

Lee added that North and South Korea will discuss the issue again Jan. 8-9 in Lausanne, Switzerland, headquarters of the International Olympic Committee. Their first meeting in Lausanne in October ended in deadlock.

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nder documents can be obtained from WAJ Main ce in Jabal Al Hussein for JD 50, irrevocable. bmission of bids will be on Dec. 28, 1985.

Engineer S.M. Kilani
President

NOTICE AQABA RAILWAY CORPORATION (ARC) TENDER NO. 16/85

This is to inform all concerned that the revised closing date for Aqaba Workshop Extension Project Tender is Jan. 30, 1986. Sealed tenders must be handed over to the Chief Clerk of ARC's office at Ma'an or the Ministry of Transport office at Amman on or before 12:30 p.m. on Jan. 30, 1986.

Mardi Qatamin
Director General

TIME

JOINING EUROPE IBERIA JOINS E.C. SPAIN AND EUROPE EXPANDED MARKET (Europe cover story)

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جبل الحسين

Soviets attack Bonn's SDI decision, hope it is not final

MOSCOW (R) — Pravda Friday assailed the West German government's move towards participation in President Reagan's "Star Wars" programme for a space-based defence, but said it hoped the decision was not final.

A commentary in the Soviet Communist Party daily said Bonn would be undermining the 1972 anti-ballistic missile (ABM) treaty if it went ahead with the plans.

West Germany announced on Wednesday it wanted to negotiate involvement in the U.S. programme, the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI), and preliminary talks began Thursday.

Pravda said West German politicians had welcomed the results of last month's U.S.-Soviet summit in Geneva, but now the conservative-led coalition was moving in the opposite direction.

It said Bonn's participation in SDI would nudge the United States into breaking the ABM treaty, which severely limited the development and testing of missile defence systems.

"Moreover, Bonn would itself be guilty of its (the treaty's) violation," the commentary said.

"For the ABM treaty forbids the United States and Soviet Union sharing technology in this field with other countries."

Washington has denied that its SDI programme would violate the

many's decision to seek a formal role in the programme and would accept its insistence on a fair exchange of technology.

Bonn named Mr. Bangemann as its negotiator and said it hoped to have an agreement drafted and signed by the end of March.

Mr. Burt said he planned to discuss preliminary arrangements for the negotiations in his meeting with Mr. Bangemann.

"We are prepared to sign an agreement as quickly as that is feasible," he said.

He rejected predictions in the German press that Washington would balk at Bonn's call for a "two-way street" ensuring a full exchange of research findings from the SDI programme.

Meanwhile the White House Thursday welcomed a Soviet offer to allow some inspection of its nuclear test sites but rejected a condition that Washington must first join Moscow in a moratorium on all testing.

President's spokesman Larry Speakes made clear Washington considered the two issues quite separate, pointing out that President Ronald Reagan already had invited Soviet officials to the American test site in Nevada.

"We gave them the key to the gate... they never showed. They can come tomorrow if they want," he told reporters.

Mr. Reagan made the offer in

Filipino, U.S. ships search for ship wreck survivors

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — U.S. and Philippine ships continued to scour the seas Friday for up to 115 passengers and crewmen of a ferry boat that sank two days ago, and the coast guard said 20 other people were missing in another sea mishap in the southern Philippines.

Officials said that by Thursday, 85 people had been rescued from the sea off the central Philippine island of Mindoro, where the ferry boat Asuncion Cinco went down Wednesday. They said seven others had been rescued off the southern island of Mindanao, where the domestic cargo ship Glenda capsized a day earlier.

The 1,936-ton Glenda, which had a crew of 27, was transporting fertilizer from the island of Leyte to Davao City on Mindanao, 800 kilometres south of Manila, when it foundered in heavy seas and poor visibility, the Coast Guard said. The remaining 20 are still missing.

Six people have been confirmed dead in the sinking of the Asuncion Cinco, which officials estimated was carrying about 200 passengers.

The Philippine News Agency reported that the waters where the ship sank, 161 kilometres south of Manila, are infested with sharks.

A Philippine Coast Guard official, who declined to be named, said in a telephone interview that most of the 55 survivors picked up by a U.S. Navy chartered boat would be taken to Subic Bay U.S. Naval Base, 80 kilometres north of Manila.

An unspecified number of survivors aboard that boat, Overseas Aline, were in "critical condition," he said, without elaborating.

Seven survivors were picked up by two ships and the rest were flown Thursday by U.S. helicopters from the navy boat to Subic.

Lt. Cmdr. James Van Sickle, head of public affairs at Subic, said three of the survivors were still in the base hospital.

Lt. Geronimo Malabanan, Philippine Coast Guard spokesman, said a joint Philippine and U.S. team was continuing to search for survivors at the site of the sinking.

Indian distillery blast kills 5, injures 45

BOMBAY, India (R) — An explosion killed five workers and injured 45 at an industrial alcohol distillery in central India, a factory spokesman reported Friday.

The spokesman for Somayya Organo Chemicals, owners of the factory in Ahmadnagar, about 320 kilometres east of Bombay, said the cause of the blast in an acetate acid tank was not known.

Acetic acid, a component of vinegar, is a by-product of industrial alcohol distilled from the molasses produced from sugar cane. The distillery was adjacent to a sugar mill.

Firemen put out a blaze which followed the explosion and the injured, mainly suffering acid burns, were taken to nearby hospitals.

Politicians have called for greater safety at Indian chemical plants following a string of killer leaks.

One person died early this month after acid leaked from a chemical plant in New Delhi.

Meanwhile, an Indian government report on the Bhopal gas disaster Friday discounted sabotage and pointed instead to design faults at the Union Carbide pesticides factory.

The report, by Dr. S. Varadajan, head of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, said design and controls at the

Horse kicks Mark Phillips in the face

DERBY, England (R) — Mark Phillips, husband of Princess Anne, was kicked in the face by his horse and had eight stitches inserted in the wound, a hospital spokesman said. Phillips was injured while about to join a hunt near Derby, in the English midlands, the spokesman said. After treatment Queen Elizabeth's son-in-law returned and rode the horse which kicked him.

Finger points to robbery case suspect

HONG KONG (R) — Police believe they cracked a robbery case with the help of an unusual tip — the tip of a man's finger. A 49-year-old Chinese man walked into a police station, reported an attempted mugging and handed over his evidence, a finger tip which he said he had bitten off one of two thugs who clamped a hand over his mouth to stop him shouting. A 20-year old man was detained after he sought hospital treatment for a shortened index finger. His accomplice was arrested later, police said.

Carrington warned not to dictate small states

COPENHAGEN (R) — Denmark's Liberal Party has attacked NATO Chief Lord Carrington for "dictating the attitude of the majority in the Danish parliament" following the alliance's rejection of the proposal to allow small countries to opt out of the alliance.

Boern Elmqvist, foreign spokesman for the Liberals, one of four parties in the ruling coalition, said small countries disliked being dictated to and added: "It is not wise for an international official to make a parliamentary majority."

The NATO secretary-general had told Armed Forces Commanders in West Germany Thursday that questions arose "when majority in the Danish Folketing takes steps to dissociate itself from elements of allied strategy."

Mr. Elmqvist said he agreed with Lord Carrington but "these are national matters and he must respect the decisions which have been made." He said Lord Carrington should confine criticism to NATO meetings and other appropriate forums.

Denmark bans nuclear arms

6 Albanians take refuge in Italian embassy

ROME (R) — Six Albanians have taken refuge in the Italian embassy in Tirana in a bid to emigrate from the country, and an Italian newspaper said they had threatened to poison themselves if they were handed over to police.

An Italian Foreign Ministry spokesman said Friday the six had shipped past Albanian guards and entered the embassy several days ago. He said Italian and Albanian officials were discussing the case, but had no further details.

However the Milan newspaper Il Giornale said Friday that the four women and two men — all brothers and sisters aged between 40 and 60 — had poison which they were threatening to take if they were handed over to Albanian police.

According to Il Giornale, they wanted to pass through Italy on their way to Canada to join another brother who had emigrated there.

The newspaper said Albanian police had ringed embassy and were shadowing anyone who left it, provoking protests from Italy which had threatened to apply similar treatment to Albanian diplomats in Rome.

An Albanian embassy official in Rome said he knew nothing about the case.

Italy occupied Albania from 1939 to 1943, and is one of the few Western countries to have relatively friendly relations with Tirana.

Marcos: Philippines could become another Nicaragua

MANILA (R) — President Ferdinand Marcos warned Friday that the opposition could turn the Philippines into another Nicaragua because of its "naive policy" on Communist insurgency, the presidential palace said.

It was the second time in a week that the palace has warned what might happen to the Philippines if the opposition wins elections slated for next Feb. 7.

The supreme court Thursday ruled against petitions challenging the election, which Mr. Marcos called to seek a fresh mandate for his policies and campaign against Communist rebels.

He said Friday an offer by opposition candidate Corason Aquino to give an amnesty to leaders of the outlawed Communist Party (CPP) was "dangerously naive policy (that) could turn the Philippines into the South East Asian Nicaragua."

Mr. Marcos added: "To believe the CPP will just now respond seriously to an offer of amnesty is to indulge in the worst kind of wishful thinking."

Kennedy withdraws from U.S. presidential race

WASHINGTON (R) — Although the next U.S. presidential election is still three years away, the abrupt early withdrawal of Edward Kennedy from the race could set off a scramble among Democratic hopefuls seeking to succeed Ronald Reagan in 1988.

Senator Edward Kennedy, who has figured in every U.S. presidential race since 1968, surprised the nation Thursday by announcing that he will not seek the Democratic nomination for president.

In a Boston television announcement, he said he was stepping aside because he believed he could be more effective in the Senate than in the White House. He acknowledged the decision meant he might never become president of the United States.

Although the 53-year-old liberal Massachusetts senator was not an official candidate for the Democratic nomination, he had been considered the front-runner in a field of contenders which could widen now that he has bowed out.

An aide to one potential candidate who asked not to be named said Sen. Kennedy's early withdrawal was a "wild card" likely to cause problems for the top Democratic contenders — Colorado Senator Gary Hart and New York Governor Mario Cuomo.

"It makes Hart the front-runner sooner than he wants to be and puts Cuomo in the spotlight before he's ready for it," the aide said.

But Senator Alan Cranston, the California Democrat who tried unsuccessfully to become the party's presidential standard-bearer in 1984, saw the removal of Sen. Kennedy from the race as a boost for Hart and Cuomo.

"It's a beautiful Christmas present for his family and for Gary Hart and Mario Cuomo," Sen. Cranston said.

Sen. Hart, who failed to wrest the nomination from Walter Mondale in 1984 but who is the only Democratic contender with nationwide campaign experience, has set Jan. 4 as his deadline for declaring whether or not to run for president.

A Gallup poll last July placed Sen. Hart, 49, second behind Sen. Kennedy as the Democrats' favourite choice.

A spokeswoman in Sen. Hart's office said Kennedy had called his Colorado colleague before making his announcement.

"I respect Senator Kennedy's personal decision and have every confidence he will remain a leader in the Democratic Party and a national spokesman as long as he wishes," Sen. Hart said.

Mr. Cuomo, whose impassioned speech to the 1984 Democratic Convention made him a national spokesman for the party's liberal wing, said he was

Lost, a herd of elephants

NEW DELHI (R) — Lost, a herd of elephants. If found please return to the forest department in Bangalore, south India. The 14 elephants disappeared during an operation to move them from a forest to a national park, the Press Trust of India said Friday.

DJ gets run over by Christmas song

DAVENPORT, Iowa (R) — A disc jockey was pulled off the air in this quiet Iowa town after he played "grandma was run over by a reindeer" 27 times in one morning. Larry Rosinick, general manager of WLLR-FM, has said disc jockey Jack Daniels "was trying to get some spirit into himself and the audience." Daniels was suspended after he refused to obey Rosinick's order to stop playing the song.

3 die in clash over girl-teasing

KARACHI (R) — At least three people were killed and 13 shops set ablaze in communal clashes triggered by the harassment of a girl in Karachi, police have said. People fought with knives and iron bars at a cloth market after a Pashtun shopkeeper from north west frontier province was seen teasing a local Urdu-speaking girl, they said. Eighteen people were injured and cars were set on fire during the battle. Thirty-two people had been detained, police said.

Turkish woman has octuplets; 6 die

ANKARA (R) — A 25-year-old Turkish woman married for only a year gave birth to octuplets Friday but six of the babies died within hours, a hospital spokeswoman said. Sevil Capan, wife of a car mechanic, took less than an hour in the delivery of five boys and three girls. Within 16 hours six had died, leaving one boy and one girl, the spokeswoman at the Aegan University Hospital in Izmir told Reuters. The babies weighed between 500 and 900 grams. The mother, who was 25 weeks pregnant, had taken a fertility drug.

3 robbers killed in holdup attempt

BISCEGLIE, Italy (AP) — Three men who attempted to rob a bank were shot and killed in a shootout with police in this southern Adriatic coastal town near Bari, authorities reported. The three gunmen, brandishing pistols, entered the downtown office of the Bank of Monte Dei Paschi Di Siena around 9 a.m. after pistol-whipping a guard on duty. After stuffing cash in a bag, two of them seized the bank manager and fled in a waiting car. But their car was blocked several hundred metres away by police, who responded to an alarm sounded by bank employees. In the ensuing shootout, the two robbers were killed and the bank manager suffered a superficial wound. The third gunman, who was fleeing in another car, was also intercepted by police and shot.

Bangladesh politician deserts Ershad's alliance

DAKA (R) — A top politician Friday had quit a government alliance and accused Bangladesh's military ruler President Hossain Mohammad Ershad of betraying him.

Former Prime Minister Shahzur Rahman told the daily star in an interview he had cut connections with a five-party alliance launched six months ago to vote Gen. Ershad as future leader.

I joined the front after we agreed certain political objectives. I must admit that the present has betrayed me," he said.

Mr. Rahman said Gen. Ershad agreed to give up his post as "chief before entering politics to set up a non-partisan government before a national election in December 1985."

"But he is now resorting to all kinds of duplicity and bad faith to flout our agreement," Mr. Rahman told the newspaper.

Mr. Rahman, who was prime minister for three years under former President Ziaur Rahman, now heads a faction of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party. Two of his party members are ministers in Gen. Ershad's cabinet.

Mr. Rahman said he would soon call a party meeting at which he might formally order the two ministers to resign.

A presidential aide said Mr. Rahman's defection would not weaken Gen. Ershad.

Cuban defector claims to have secrets

MADRID (R) — A Cuban defector was quoted Friday as saying that Havana embassy officials tried to kidnap him on Dec. 13 because they feared he would reveal secrets on the Cuban economy.

"It was a desperate kidnap attempt which would have ended with my execution," Manuel Antonio Sanchez Perez said in an interview with the Madrid daily El Pais.

"This desperate act was a result of their fear that I would sell or make available confidential economic information which I possess through the post I held," he added.

He said the assistant chairman of Cuba's Central Bank, Jose Garcia Pena, was tried and executed last year after Havana officials discovered a foreign bank account in his name.

Spain last week expelled the Cuban vice-consul in Madrid and three other Cuban embassy staff accused of trying to kidnap Sanchez Perez at gunpoint outside a Madrid bank.

Sanchez Perez, 50, a former vice-minister in the Havana government, applied for political asylum here on Nov. 18.

He told El Pais that he had \$500,000 in his Madrid bank account, which he said came from commissions on business dealings.

He said Cuban officials were smuggling money out of the country through a British-based firm.

Sanchez Perez denied reports that he was a Cuban espionage agent. He said he decided to defect after reaching the conclusion that "the Cuban economic and political system was not effective and failed to achieve its objectives."

Shuttle back in workshop for repair

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida (R) — Columbia, the oldest shuttle of the U.S. four-ship fleet, was in the workshop for repair Friday after a hydraulic steering power unit failed 14 seconds before scheduled launch Thursday.

Officials said the shuttle will not be launched until at least Jan. 4 because they do not want to run up huge overtime labour costs over the holidays when workers are paid triple time, which would cost half a million dollars more than normal.

The hydraulic power unit acts like power steering on a car and controls the nozzles on the solid rockets so that it can steer the craft during launch.

There are two hydraulic units on each booster and mission rules say that both the primary and backup systems must be operating at launch.

Robert Sieck, director of shuttle operations, said "it would take between now and the day before Christmas to replace the unit and test it."

He added that the launch was postponed until Jan. 4 in order to give the launch crew time to spend the holidays with their families.

The cancellation left the seven-man crew, which had spent two hours on the craft Thursday, wearing felt reindeer antlers on their helmets. They had been given the antlers by ground crew dressed as Santas.

The scheduled takeoff had already been delayed because of heavy cloud cover and wind conditions but space officials approved take-off when a gap opened in the 48-minute launch "window."

After six missions, it was taken out of service in November, 1983, for extensive modernisation to bring it up to the quality of its sister ships Challenger, Discovery and Atlantis.

On the current mission Columbia is due to carry William Nelson, 42, chairman of the House of Representatives Subcommittee on Space, Science and Application, and the first Hispanic astronaut, Franklin Chang-Diaz.

Doctor urges more animal organ transplants

CHICAGO (R) — The Surgeon who one year ago implanted a baboon's heart into the infant known as Baby Fae has said the procedure has the potential for saving the lives of thousands of infants born with similar heart defects.

The unidentified infant who received the walnut-sized heart died on Nov. 15, 1984, at Loma Linda University Medical Centre in California after living for 20 days.

Doctor Leonard Bailey, the surgeon who performed the operation and was later criticized by some medical colleagues for engaging in an "unwarranted experiment," said he was asking the medical profession and the news media for patience and understanding.

"We are asking them to throw off dogma and dated thinking and to go with us on this idea a bit to see where it leads," he said in an interview published Thursday in the AMA News, a weekly newspaper published by the American Medical Association.

"If I see something that convinces me xenografts (the implantation of organs from another species) will not work, I will set the project aside," he said. "But this is not what I am seeing. I am very positive about the potential of xenografts to help infants with hypoplastic left heart syndrome."

About 7,500 infants are born in the United States each year with congenital heart disease.

"Dr. Bailey said the procedure had potential as a temporary measure for keeping such infants alive until they were old enough to receive a human heart transplant, but added:

"My hunch is that if the xenograft lasts six months, there will be no need to replace it. It would be silly to remove a graft that is functioning normally."

Bailey's comments coincided with publication in the AMA News of the autopsy results of the Baby Fae case. The autopsy concluded that one of the causes of death was probably a mismatch of blood types, as had been previously reported.

She had type "O" blood while the baboon from whom the heart was taken had type "AB." Researchers have found that "O" blood is very rare among baboons.

The report said the crossmatch of blood types together with toxic antibodies formed in response to the non-human tissue and a reaction to the drug given to prevent the baby's body from rejecting the new organ resulted in a clumping together of blood products that virtually starved the heart of blood.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND CHAS SELBY
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OUT FOR THE COUNT

both vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH			
♠ 65	♥ 107	♦ A97	♣ K10743
EST 1074	EAST ♠ A9532	WEST ♠ 1074	WEST ♠ 1074
9843	♣ 165	♣ 165	♣ 165
9882	♣ 165	♣ 165	♣ 165

bidding:

North	East	South	West
1 ♠	2 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass	4 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass	6 ♥	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: Jack of ♠.

There are wild stories floating about bridge experts who place every card after the auction. If there is such an animal, we would have lived long ago to tell of it. However, it is certainly not that, by the time the play of hand is halfway over, a skilled player should have a pretty good idea of the line of the hand. Consider, for example, the Spring North African Championships. The action was straightforward.